FDA Commissioner
Docket No. 00N1396/00D-1598

FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA Commissioner:

As a responsible consumer **concerned** with my **health**, I am writing in opposition to the FDA's new proposed rule and guidance on genetically engineered foods.

The proposed **voluntary labeling** and notification proposals are totally **inadequate to** protect my health and to safeguard the environment. I have some allergies. I need to know what it is that I am eating, and I need to have you protect my right to know what I am eating. I believe every citizen in this country has that right.

I strongly support the following:

- 1. The **labeling** of ah genetically engineered foods and ingredients so that I can make an informed choice about what I eat.
- 2. Mandatory premarket **safety** testing of **all** genetically engineered foods. **These** totally new species of plants and animals (and hybrids of the two) need to be tested in labs not on me. **From** a human standpoint it is absurd and **from** a scientific standpoint unsound to assume that genetic components that are safe for human consumption separately are also **safe** when combined.
- 3. A moratorium on **genetically** engineered foods and the growing of genetically engineered foods outside of laboratory conditions until long-term studies prove them **safe** for human health and for the environment. Until that has been accomplished, something as **simple** as cross-pollination has the potential for wreaking environmental havoc on this **planet**. We simple do not yet know what **will** happen.

I urge you to take a far more long-term, responsible look at the whole process of genetically engineered foods.

Very truly yours,

Wendy J. Loots

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